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Contributors, subscribers and readers will find important information on the sixteenth advertising page following the reading matter.

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THE SANTA BARBARA MEETING.

Nearly six hundred in attendance, wonderful weather, an uncommon feeling of fellowship and of union in a common cause, these were among the factors which made the 47th annual session of the Medical Society of the State of California, at Santa Barbara, May 11-13, the best and the most fruitful in the history of the Society. The program was unusually strong. The absence of long discursive papers, the snappy, short addresses by men who knew their subjects, all contributed to unusual scientific value. Dr. John H. Graves of San Francisco was elected president-elect, Dr. John C. Yates of San Diego assumed the office of president, Dr. William Duffield of Los Angeles was elected first vice-president, Dr. Joseph Catton of San Francisco was elected second vice-president, and Dr. Saxton T. Pope of San Francisco was re-elected secretary. It was decided that the session of 1921 should be held in San Diego. President Yates certainly is bringing home the bacon. And if those not in attendance this year will profit by the advice and experience of their more fortunate brethren, they will all unite next year in San Diego, for these sessions are becoming of great and enduring value and no doctor can afford to miss them.

At Santa Barbara, at the Ambassador Hotel, it was startling, to say the least, to note that departed spirits seemed to lurk where the doctors congregated, and of all sections, it was most surprising that the Section on Industrial Medicine should have chosen the bar-room for its convocations. Communion with the departed spirits, however, did not hinder the presentation of papers of rare interest. Another unexplained fact is that the Section on Obstetrics and Gynecology met in the Moorish Room, the Section on Neurology and Psychiatry in the Music Room, and finally and above all, that the staid and dignified Council

elected to hold its sittings in the Kindergarten. They did, because the editor saw them do it—at a distance, and noted the toys, playthings and juvenile furniture.

It was a step in advance that the Program Committee required each paper before presentation, to be deposited with the secretary of the section. Attention is called, also, to the fact that all papers read at this session will not be published in the Journal. The Council has authorized the editor to return to the writers such papers as, because of length, or too technical content, do not seem adapted for the pages of the Journal. Such papers will be returned promptly to their writers in order that they may receive early publication in more technical journals.

In the July issue of the Journal will appear the minutes of the House of Delegates. In spite of the excessive pressure on the columns of the Journal, it is intended to publish the papers from the Santa Barbara meeting in the succeeding issues of the Journal to the virtual exclusion of original papers from other sources. The editor is forced, much against his will, to return many current papers submitted because of lack of space. The necessity for doubling the size of the Journal is apparent and it is hoped that this needed increase may soon be possible.

"BETTER HEALTH."

At last the long-looked-for day has arrived when the medical profession has available a medium for direct interpretation to the public, in readable, understandable form, of the facts and results of modern scientific medicine. What doctor has not lamented the lack of such a medium? What doctor but has wished time and time again for some way in which medical lore and scientific data could be carried accurately and with authority to the public? "Better Health" supplies this need

and the initial issue which is just off the press is just cause for rejoicing and pride on the part of the entire medical fraternity. It goes without saying that every doctor must be a subscriber. It will be equally apparent to every doctor, as he reads this first issue, that this magazine must be put on a subscription basis in the hands of every one of his patients and friends. Have a copy or copies always on the table in your reception room. Get subscriptions from all your friends and patients. It is only a dollar a year and its value cannot be measured in money. It is the organ of the League for the Conservation of Public Health, and its editor is Mr. Celestine J. Sullivan, the executive secretary of that organization. The League is here to stay. It has demonstrated its worth. It is very much alive. *It is in the fight.* It will win the fight. What fight? The only fight in which the doctor as a doctor is vitally interested. The fight for better and best health for every member of the body politic of these United States, starting in our own California.

Volume One, Number One, of "Better Health" is full of good things. For instance, on page 46 is found the following, which doctors already realize: "Defeat faces four measures. This is campaign year, and all good citizens are interested in getting accurate information on the men and measures that will be voted on at the general election, November 2, 1920. Among others, there are four measures upon which the League has already assembled sufficient reliable data, to warrant us in recommending their defeat. The first is the initiative which the anti-vivisectionists are placing on the ballot. The second is a constitutional amendment offered by an alleged Public School Protective League. The third is the chiropractic initiative, which proposes to create a separate board of examiners for chiropractors. The fourth is a referendum invoked by certain osteopaths upon Senate Bill No. 604. In coming issues of 'Better Health' the pernicious character of several of these measures will be pointed out and reasons offered why all of them should be defeated. All of these questions are health questions and very appropriately will be discussed and decided by the people; for who should be more interested in the health of the people than the people themselves? The verdict of the people will be correct if the people have correct information. 'Better Health' will present the facts."

NEW MINIMUM FEES FOR INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT WORK.

At the meeting of the House of Delegates May 11th, at Santa Barbara, the report of the Committee of the Council on Industrial Accident Work was adopted. Full report of the committee will be published in the July issue of the Journal.

This is the result of a prolonged effort on the part of the Council to get more equitable fees for Industrial Accident cases. The State Society has never gone on record as accepting any fee schedule in this sort of work, and it is well recognized that the remuneration heretofore offered has been entirely inadequate. We have now offi-

cially accepted the standard of fees which have been agreed to by the Industrial Accident Commission and the carriers throughout the state. This is not a final adjustment. It is but the beginning of a graduated scale of compensation for surgical services, and it will be changed from time to time as conditions warrant. It is, however, a start in the right direction.

We wish to direct your attention to this schedule as accepted by the House of Delegates and which we print on pages 237 and 238 of the Journal. It should be read carefully with the explanatory notes. The figures given are the minimum or basal charges. It will go into effect June 1st, and all bills rendered for services after this date should be figured on this basis.

The State Medical Society also has devised new and simplified blanks which all carriers have agreed to accept. In the course of time these will be sent out and be the standard blanks for our members who do this sort of work. It will lessen the clerical waste which hitherto has marked this type of case.

Many physicians will be disappointed with the 25% increase in the fee schedule as offered, and will think that a 100% increase will be none too much. But we must remind you that there are men ready to take this work even on the old basis and by giving services in a wholesale way can still run it as a paying business. The present advance is intended to compensate the average physician who does industrial work, and it should be the part of the State Medical Society to endeavor to raise the standard of services rendered and to prevent commercialism gaining control, and thus in the end give better care to the injured employee.

DOCTORS TO DEFEAT "QUACK" SOLONS.

Under this appropriate headline the San Francisco Examiner for May 19, 1920, says as follows: "Come all ye little legislators and listen unto me! The doctor man will get you if you don't watch out. The doctors of California are organized into the strongest medical association in this country—a model organization that other states are beginning to imitate. The big pill doctors and the little pill doctors have joined hands. More than 3,000 of them are in the 'League for the Conservation of Public Health.' All the leading men of the regular healing profession are in it. The League publishes a magazine called 'Better Health.' In its most recent issue 'Better Health' says: 'Watch the next legislature. League will oppose candidates hostile to scientific medicine. We are watchfully waiting for all the candidates to appear. Before we can watch the legislature it must be chosen, and all of us have the duty and privilege of making the choice.' OMINOUS PARAGRAPH. Then follows the list of the twenty senators and eighty assemblymen whose terms expire this year and whose successors are to be chosen in November. After the list comes the following significant paragraph: 'The record of some of these does not justify the belief that they have a true conception of their duty to the interests of the whole state. In its issue of July, 1919, THE CALIFORNIA STATE